

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00254 310002Z
ACTION EB-08

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7727
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E.O.12356 N/A
TAGS: EINV,MZ,US
SUBJECT: AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN FISHERIES

REF: 85 MAPUZO 271' (NOTAL)

1. THE TEXAS-SBASED INTER- DENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATION
HOPE FOR AFRICA IS MOVING AHEAD WITH EFFORTS TO BRING
AMERICAN INVESTMENTS TO MOZAMBIQUE. TWO TEXAS
INVESTORS, RICHARD BONTKE AND JAMES WILSON, WHO PARTICIPATED
IN THE HFA TRADE MISSION TO MAPUTO LAST OCTOBER (REFTEL)
HAVE FORMED A MIXED FISHERIES COMPANY - MOTEX- WITH LOCAL
BUSINESSMAN ALBANO DECASTRO.
MOTEX PLANS TO CONSTRUCT A PROCESSING PLANT IN MAPUTO HARBOR
AND TO EXPORT SHRIMP AND LOBSTER TO THE U.S. AND SOUTH AFRICA
PROJECT COST IS AN ESTIMATED FIVE MILLION DOLLARS AND BENTKE
AND WILSON HAVE MADE PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FOR OPIC
INSURANCE.

2. IN ADDITION TO THE FISHERIES VENTURE, HOPE FOR AFRICA
IS ALSO PLANNING PROJECTS IN MINING, AGRICULTURE, AND BUSINESS
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EDUCATION.

3. COMMENT: EVEN THOUGH HEAVILY INFILTRATED BY SOVIETS,
JAPANESE AND SPANIARDS, THE MOZAMBIKAN FISHING INDUSTRY
STILL OFFERS ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES
THE ARRIVAL ON THE SCENE OF THE HOPE FOR AFRICA JOINT VENTURE

HOPEFULLY WILL OPEN UP THE DOOR TO EXPANDED U.S. PARTICIPATION
IN THIS CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT ECONOMIC SECTOR.
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